

P R E S S

NEWARK EAGLES BASEBALL CLUB

I N F O R M A T I O N

71 Crawford Street

Newark 2, N.J.

NEWARK, N.J.---Back from the Cuban and Puerto Rican baseball wars is Terris Chester McDuffie with sheafs of sports page clippings displaying his name in big type and the fact he was selected second most valuable pitcher in the Cuban League. Enroute Wednesday to join the Newark Eagles spring training camp in Virginia, he paused long enough to breathe new vengeance against Satchel Paige of the Kansas City Monarchs, his only rival in the ranks of the Negro American and Negro National Leagues.

Last season McDuffie, right hander who always pitches best when the chips are down, beat Paige in three championship games out of four. Their latest clash was in Puerto Rico where he trimmed Paige's team 4-0, allowed but one hit whereas Paige allowed 13. This classic fued in the ranks of Negro baseball sends out the S.R.O sign wherever their teams contact.

Born in Mobile, Alabama, McDuffie has played ball ever since he can remember. His grandmother made him play, sewing covers on bursted balls for him to use and giving him a lot down south on which to mark off his own diamond. At sixteen he joined the regular Army and was assigned to troops at Fort Benning, Georgia. where his interest ⁱⁿ the baseball game was fanned to white heat when the cadets permitted him to join in on their skill practice sessions.

Five years later he had joined the Birmingham Black Barons and sat one afternoon on the bench while the pitcher of his team cracked up in the first two innings and allowed the Chicago American Giants to run away with the game. McDuffie begged his manager for a chance to retrieve the game and when the manager relented, McDuffie tore into the box and allowed but one hit in the remaining seven innings.

From the Barons he came to the Baltimore Black Sox, thence to the New York Black Yankees and finally the Newark Eagles.

Asked his opinion of Negro players entering the big leagues, McDuffie said that may be alright, but these days, comparitively, the Negro Leagues are "big" leagues also. Many Negro stars might not accept such an invitation, he added, on the grounds they would be constantly on the spot to perform miracles. However, as far as experience with the big leaguers goes, McDuffie has plenty. He has beaten Bob Fellowes 5-2 in pitching bouts, Larry French